## <u>Crestmoor Neighborhood Resident Issues Raised at Open House on</u> <u>August 20, 2012</u>

## Issue

## Can the City provide a more detailed description of the gas pipeline rupture incident that occurred on August 2, 2012 including the level of response and why certain residents were notified and some were not?

## **Status/Comments**

The City provided a summary of the incident in the notice that was hand delivered to every residence on August 10<sup>th</sup> (link here).

The contractor, Shaw Pipeline, notified San Mateo Dispatch that they had accidently hit a 2-inch gas pipeline at approximate 10:45 AM on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. County dispatch immediately sent out a notice to emergency agencies (Police and Fire) as well as PG&E. Due to the location and nature of the incident, it was reported and the response was in accordance with the level of a "structure fire". PG&E crews were onsite within 11 minutes of the reporting. Fire trucks from San Bruno, Millbrae, and SSF were dispatched immediately as well as San Bruno Police. Again due to the location, fire trucks immediately blocked off streets in the neighborhood. Upon determining the nature of the gas leak in coordination with PG&E crews, emergency personnel decided to evacuate 14 residences (7 on Glenview and 7 on Earl). Additionally, a certain number of surrounding residents were notified to "shelter in place" and be prepared in case they were asked to evacuate as well.

The City recognizes that much confusion surrounded this event and is currently "debriefing" with Police and Fire Departments to take stock of the lessons learned and provide a better mechanism to keep resident informed with real time information should a similar incident occur (see next question).

- 2) Can the City implement a public notification process to inform residents in the event of another "emergency" in the neighborhood? Information in a timely matter is critical to the residents.
- In the aftermath of the August 2<sup>nd</sup> incident, the City is exploring several potential means to keep the public informed when and if similar incidents occur. These include potential use of a "reverse 911" system, a text alert system, and other methods. The City will provide more information on this topic in the near future.
- 3) Related to the abandonment of Line 132:
  - a) Can the City officially notify the community of the official results of the questionnaire that was distributed recently?
  - b) Can the test results on Line 132 (contents and pipe material) be provided?
- a) The community was overwhelmingly in favor (80%) of filling the pipeline with concrete. The City Council directed City staff to coordinate the filling of the pipe with PG&E.
- b) Prior to filling the pipe, PG&E is performing testing of the pipe to ensure no hazardous materials are present. Testing is ongoing and PG&E has provided some test results to the City. Test results performed to date are posted on the Crestmoor Reconstruction website

- c) Can PG&E test the soil surrounding both the 1948 and 1956 portions of Line 132 for potential toxic materials that may be present?
- d) How will PG&E ensure that the abandoned pipeline will not deteriorate and pollute the ground or groundwater?
- e) How can the community be assured that PG&E will annually monitor the pipe condition and provide accurate information as to the condition?
- f) How can the residents be sure that the pipe is completed with concrete and fully abandoned?
- 4) There is concern from many residents regarding the potential presence of residual toxic and/or dangerous materials (asbestos, etc.) on the vacant lots in the neighborhood. Can PG&E provide some additional testing (both soil and air samples) to determine if any dangers exist?
- 5) Excessive speeding and parking of contractor vehicles in the neighborhood is still an issue. What is the City doing to alleviate this situation?
- 6) Dust from the current utility construction is a major concern and nuisance. What steps is the City taking to alleviate the problem?

- (<u>www.rebuildcrestmoor.org</u>). Additionally, test results will be provided as they become available.
- c) PG&E has indicated that they will perform testing of the solids adjacent and below both the 1948 and 1956 portions of Line 132 to be abandoned. The City will coordinate the test locations with PG&E and provide those test results to the neighborhood when they are available.
- d) PG&E will protect the pipe from corroding by installing a cathodic protection (CP) system on the pipe. This involves placing a very low electrical charge on the pipe and monitoring the current over time. CP systems prevent metallic (steel) pipes from corroding.
- e) Since the PG&E pipe is within the City right-of-way, the City will require PG&E to provide an annual CP report verifying the integrity of the CP system. The City will have PG&E's information reviewed and verified by a third party independent corrosion engineer.
- f) The City has hired an independent gas pipeline consultant to monitor the abandonment and filling of Line 132. They will be present on site during the fill operations to verify the quantity of the concrete slurry injected into the pipe. In addition, the public is welcome to witness the filling operations as they occur.

The City will discuss this with PG&E and will provide updated information in the near future.

The City will remind all contractors on-site to obey the speed limits and not park in areas that block or impede current residents. Additionally, the Police Dept. will provide increased patrols and issue citations to speeders.

The City has instituted a number of measures to help lessen the dust issue, but recognizes that it is still a concern. Steps taken to date include:

- Providing water trucks on site seven days a week to keep streets moist and dust from becoming airborne
- Providing additional sweeping and "vacuuming" of the streets during working and non-working hours of construction
- Directing the contractor to not place dirt from the trenches on the roadway

Additional steps and measure will be taken on future phases of the work to help further reduce the dust issues currently being experienced.